

selfish purposes. But a great and effectual door is yet open to us and others are opening to us each day while the Master bids us enter. What the Reformed Church Messenger says of the church it represents is equally true of the Brethren church. Following is a paragraph from that paper :

The Reformed Church will be wise if she now exerts herself to the utmost and enters into her Home Mission work as never before. Now is her golden opportunity ; this is her seed time ; at present she ought to build for the future. That her sons may have places in which to preach the Master's word, and that her institutions of learning may have a higher and richer constituency ; that she may enlarge her foreign work and take her share in the future conquest of the world for Christ : that she may aid in saving this great land of ours from practical infidelity and its terrible consequences ; and that she may be large and strong enough to have influence in spreading abroad that "sweet reasonableness" and charitable spirit which has ever ruled her teaching ; it is necessary for her now to set about claiming her territory and developing her resources. Unless she does that her future usefulness will be as limited as in the past. God continues to offer us the privilege of having a larger share in the work of his kingdom. It rests with us to accept it, and increase in strength and usefulness. But unless we make better use of our opportunities the day will surely come when these will pass away.

### The Maligned Missionaries

Quite a brilliant assortment of lies have been told about the missionaries in China from the beginning of the recent troubles in that country up to yesterday. The secular papers have shown a malicious delight in publishing all sorts of damaging stories about them, not taking the trouble to verify these stories, and making no reparation or apology when one after another of these scandals turned out to be lies. The missionaries have had a hard bargain. Upon them fell the whole fury of the Boxers, and many, even women and children, suffered martyrdom, falling at the post of duty. Those who could fled from the threatened peril, as Christ bid them to flee and for this they were held up to scorn by as godless a crew of newspaper hacks, penny-a-liners, mouthers, bawlers, blatherskites, as ever the world saw. Then when the persecution was over, they were charged with looting. This also was proved to be a lie after so long a time. Then came the report that a missionary was levying tribute in large sums upon the Chinese villages. He was arrested, he was published all over the civilized world, he was lampooned, denounced and damned from one end of creation to the other. But by and by it comes to light that this also was a lie. One would think that these lies about the missionaries would begin to taste bad even in the mouth of the champion liar himself. It would seem that so many exposures would even shame the devil, but his hide is tough, and here he comes with another tale, to the effect that the missionaries are now trying to collect money for their sermons which were destroyed by the Boxers. They say these sermons are being listed for indemnity, and that some of the missionaries are asking as much as three hundred dollars a piece for them. Now we venture to say that this is merely another lie, of a piece with those others. It is to us an evidence that this missionary work is of God when the whole world agrees to slander it in this base and malicious manner. That some individual missionaries have been indiscreet was to be expected. They have forgotten that the eyes of a godless world were upon them, ready to seize every opportunity to destroy their reputation and in-

fluence, and thru them to cast vile imputations upon the sacred cause they represent. Missionaries are but men, subject to human limitations and human weaknesses. But upon the whole they have comported themselves in this awful crisis in a manner worthy of their great calling, and when the whole truth is known, it will be seen that God has taken care of his children and his kingdom.

### Easter Morn

Beautiful Easter, celestial glory flashing down upon its roseate dawn, life laughing thru the skies, and chasing death to his cimmerian cave. Even the dull earth rejoices and sends up her trooping flowers, blushing that the sky and the rainbow, and all angels and all beautiful souls, smile in admiration and speak joyfully of a hope the very promise of which is as beautiful as the garments of paradise. For the earth shall cast forth her dead but in such form of radiant immortality that the stars shall pause to witness the astounding miracle, and that creation song which rang from world to world when light first waked the void to life shall no more be remembered after the shout of universal rapture, welcoming from the grave the sons of glory.

Today we look back upon the sowing of tears thru out all the sorrowful ages, when love stood, and even today stands, upon the borderland whence it had journeyed with the departing loved one, hand in hand, and parted there where the shadows came down impenetrable to human vision, parted it seemed to the breaking heart forever and ever—we look upon that sowing and we say : 'Tis the promise of the harvest, when joy shall wave in the wide fields of eternity, and every tear shall be a radiant gem, reflecting the smiles of immortal youth. Hope bids surcease of sorrow there, thou breaking heart, for see while yet we gaze upon what seemed to be impenetrable darkness, a window opens, and behold that black wall heaven high between time and eternity is only a veil to hide the excess of glory beyond, lest our weak frame, unable to bear the insufferable brightness, should be overwhelmed by it, and perish by the vision. O, thou sorrowing heart, behold thou hast not gone down with thy loved one to a land of shadow and darkness, but to a land whose vision must be hid from eyes too weak to bear it ; a land to which the brightness of our noonday sun is but thick darkness. O beauty of the Easter morn, bright flowers that spring responsive from the lap of earth. sweet birds that carol their joy upon every fragrant breeze, blessed promise of the resurrection that whispers thru earth and air and sky, speak to the sorrowing this day, and touch every bleeding heart with the healing sympathy of Infinite Love.

### Ashland College

There is very little space left us this week, but enough to let the brotherhood know that there has been no second response to an appeal for thousand dollar pledges. We have one, that leaves nine to be secured. Is there one who will take the tenth pledge ? That is if the nine are secured, will you take the tenth ? Who are "you" ? No doubt the brotherhood has been inquisitive to know why the editor should be so much interested in Ashland College endowment and some have even credited these editorials to another source. They have come from the overworked editor, and the brotherhood shall have the reason for our interest in Ashland College. Look for it next week.